

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~created by an unauthorized process~~ composed by a virus and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side;

alerting a system user on the sending side as to the complete electronic mail message being sent; and

allowing a user to authorize sending of the complete electronic mail message.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the send function is ~~activated by the unauthorized process~~ initiated by an unauthorized agent.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the unauthorized ~~process comprises one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message~~ agent is the virus.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said recognizing recognizes a send operation initiated by the user.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said recognizing recognizes a send operation initiated by ~~the unauthorized process comprising one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message~~ an unauthorized agent including the virus.

6. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~created by an unauthorized process~~ composed by a virus and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

stopping transmission of the complete electronic mail message until authorized by a user.

7. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~created by an unauthorized process~~ composed by a virus and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

providing a user with an opportunity to consider canceling transmission of the complete electronic mail message until authorized by the user.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising displaying the complete electronic mail message to the user after the send function is initiated in an interface allowing the user to modify the complete electronic mail message, cancel transmission of the complete electronic mail message and authorize transmission of the complete electronic mail

message.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

an e-mail transmission system having a sending side and a receiving side; and

an e-mail system recognizing a complete e-mail message ~~created by an unauthorized process composed by a virus~~ and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, by a user via the transmission system, alerting a user on the sending side as to the addressees of the complete e-mail message and allowing the user to authorize sending of the complete e-mail message.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium for controlling a computer including a computer program recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~created by an unauthorized process composed by a virus~~ and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, alerting a user as to the complete electronic mail message being sent and allowing the user to authorize sending of the complete electronic mail message.

11. (Currently Amended) An electronic message alert display, comprising:

text alerting a user on a sending side as to a complete electronic message ~~created by an unauthorized process composed by a virus~~ and having a valid recipient address, about to be sent; after a send function has been initiated,

a list of addressees; and

an interface element allowing the user to authorize transmission of the complete

electronic message.

12. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:
determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts
needed to be a valid electronic mail message and ~~created by an unauthorized process~~
composed by a virus is to be sent; and

alerting the user as to the electronic mail message to be sent

13. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:
determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts
needed to be a valid electronic mail message and ~~created by an unauthorized process~~
composed by a virus is to be sent;

alerting the user as to the electronic mail message to be sent; and

allowing the user to permit sending of the electronic mail message to be sent.

14. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:
determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts
needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an
agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message is to be sent; and

alerting a user as to the message to be sent.

15. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan

horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side;

alerting a system user on the sending side as to the message being sent; and

allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

16. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

stopping transmission of the message until authorized by the user.

17. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

providing the user with an opportunity to consider canceling transmission of the message until authorized by the user.

18. (Withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:

an e-mail transmission system having a sending side and a receiving side; and

an e-mail system recognizing a complete e-mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, by a user via the transmission system, alerting a user on the sending side as to the addressees of the message and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

19. (Withdrawn) A computer readable storage medium for controlling a computer including a computer program recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, alerting a user as to the message being sent and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

20. (Withdrawn) An electronic message alert display, comprising:

text alerting a user on a sending side as to a complete electronic message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, about to be sent; after a send function has been initiated,
a list of addressees; and
an interface element allowing the user to authorize transmission of the message.

21. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an

agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message is to be sent; and
alerting the user as to the message to be sent.

22. (Withdrawn) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts
needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an
agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message is to be sent;

alerting the user as to the message to be sent; and

allowing the user to permit sending of the message to be sent.

23. (New) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message composed by a process
configured to compose unauthorized electronic mail and having a valid recipient address is to
be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side;

alerting a system user on the sending side as to the complete electronic mail message
to be sent; and

allowing a user to authorize sending of the complete electronic mail message.

24. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the process is a virus.

25. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the process is an unauthorized agent.

26. (New) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message is to be sent from a sending side to a receiving side, wherein the complete electronic mail message is an unauthorized electronic mail message, has a valid recipient address, and is to be sent after a send function has been initiated;

alerting a system user on the sending side about the complete electronic mail message to be sent; and

allowing a user to authorize sending the complete electronic mail message.

27. (New) A computer program product including a tangible computer-readable medium containing instructions that, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform processes of:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message is to be sent from a sending side to a receiving side, wherein the complete electronic mail message is an unauthorized electronic mail message, has a valid recipient address, and is to be sent after a send function has been initiated;

alerting a system user on the sending side about the complete electronic mail message to be sent; and

allowing a user to authorize sending the complete electronic mail message.

28. (New) An e-mail system, comprising:

a first module configured to recognize whether a complete electronic mail message is to be sent from a sending side to a receiving side, wherein the complete electronic mail

message is an unauthorized electronic mail message, has a valid recipient address, and is to be sent after a send function has been initiated;

a second module configured to alert a system user on the sending side about the complete electronic mail message to be sent; and

a third module configured to allow a user to authorize sending the complete electronic mail message.

29. (New) An e-mail system, comprising:

means for recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message is to be sent from a sending side to a receiving side, wherein the complete electronic mail message is composed by an unauthorized agent, has a valid recipient address, and is to be sent after a send function has been initiated;

means for alerting a system user on the sending side about the complete electronic mail message to be sent; and

means for allowing a user to authorize sending the complete electronic mail message.